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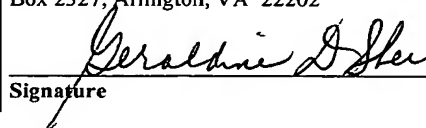
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CITATION OF REFERENCES

Enclosed herewith on an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO-1449) is a list of references for consideration by the Examiner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-identified application, and, consequently, no fee or statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) or (d) is required. Furthermore, with the exception of Derwent Patent Abstract Nos. 199732 and 199136, copies of the references are not being provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), as copies of these references will be provided to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) by the International Bureau. If for any reason the International Bureau does not provide the USPTO with copies of these references, it is requested that Applicants' undersigned representative be so notified, and appropriate means will then be taken to furnish the reference copies.

It is noted for the Examiner's convenience that Derwent Patent Abstract No. 199732 is an English language abstract of WO 97/23219, and Derwent Patent Abstract No. 199136 is an English language abstract of FR 2656303.

Date: 12/20/01


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